

## **Students' Motivation in Studying English: a Case Study at The Eleventh Grade Students MA Kebunrejo Genteng**

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### **Abstract**

*Motivation is the powerful part of learning process for studying English. By this way, students will be more diligent to go to school and engage with the subject. The purpose of this research to reveal students' motivation in studying English. The data analysis is utilized in this research is qualitative. This method is to reveal some information that collected from questionnaire given to students. Here, there are 40 students are asked some questions. The result of this study that students have answer the questionnaire varies greatly. The top of average percentage of the choice is neutral then followed with agree. The residue are disagree, strongly agree and strongly disagree sequentially. It means some students still hesitant to say agree or disagree about the their motivation in studying English.*

**Keywords:** motivation, students' motivation, studying English

### **Introduction**

Motivation is one of vital role in learning process especially for learning English as foreign language for Indonesian students. Hayikaleng, Nair & Krishnasamy mentioned that motivation is regarded as an important component to make students success in their English learning. It encourages students in learning<sup>1</sup>. As stated by harmer it's some kind of internal drive which pushes someone to do things in order to achieve something<sup>2</sup>. In fact, a student who really want to get good score or good predicate in class after the final test. He / she will study hard, learn all lessons and mobilize the ability he has to get and to be number one in. That why he will deserve it because of the effort. Just think if not study gradually and lazy so the good predicate is not for him. Felling enjoy with what he has / he do is the motivation.

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<sup>1</sup> Nuramah Hayikaleng, Subadrah Madhawa Nair and Hariharan N Krishnasamy, "Thai Students' Motivation On English Reading Comprehension", International Journal of Education and Research, Vol. 4 No. 6 (June 2016), 483

<sup>2</sup> Jeremy Harmer, The Practice of English Language Teaching, Fourth Edition. (England: Longman Pearson, 2001), Page 98

One of the major component of motivation defines also as intensity. It means that the energy to do something gradually and it can every day. The success of students can be measured by how often studying English? Every day, every week or seldom. Anis Baswedan is the governor of capital city Indonesia. Before he take hold as governor, he is a head of university. at that time, he became the youngest head of university when he was thirty eight years old in 2007. From the story of him, we can say that he is clever and diligent to study till he get the doctor degree and become governor. Then, in other word that intensity means working as hard as possibly you can.

Harmer said that there are two types of motivation<sup>3</sup>. They are extrinsic motivation and extrinsic motivation. Extrinsic motivation is caused by any number of outside factors, for example, the need to pass an exam, the hope of financial reward, or the possibility of future travel. By the factor of desire to have good result after examination of course students will find the way to do something to get it. Parent may have promised that if he has passed the exam the parent will give motorcycle or new smartphone. So, the spirit appears based on the promised from him. Intrinsic motivation, by contrast, comes from within the individual. As a sincere teacher where he/she has to be at school on time and be patient to educate all students with different characters. Besides, there are so many kinds of duty should be done before teaching in class such the syllabus and lesson plan. Then after the class, he has responsibility to analyze what has been done and what has to improve or change related to strategy or approach that utilized in particular topic discussed without any expectations to get reward. Again he must be understand to all children character as a pediatrician because as we know that the duty of him is treating them and making them happy. Thus, felling enjoy to the profession they have and do not hope to get reward is the intrinsic motivation.

Furthermore, in addition, Harmer give more explanation the external that what has influenced students motivation<sup>4</sup>. They are goals, the society we live in, curiosity and teacher. Goal. Yes, goal. Students may have purpose for their future after they

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<sup>3</sup> Jeremy Harmer, *The Practice of English Language Teaching*, Fourth Edition. (England: Longman Pearson, 2001), Page 98

<sup>4</sup> Jeremy Harmer, *The Practice of English Language Teaching*, Fourth Edition. (England: Longman Pearson, 2001), Page 98

graduated from school. Related to English, students learn this language for having great job such as pilot or stewardess or even married with a native of English. Then, The society we live in. Just think that if you are living in America or Canada where all people there use English as their tool of communication. Of course you'll be easy to study English. Again if you're living with people that have mastered many languages and one of them is English. Yes, it will make you have curiosity to learn English that because your neighborhood capable to use it and really fluent. Third is curiosity. Do not be underestimated to some students who have natural curiosity. By this, they'll look for the way to know much to get information about it. Just like you curious to meet someone that really be waited and you are eager. All about her will be asked to some friends or her family or by searching the information from internet. We nowadays is easy to find or study English that from YouTube, Facebook or online group such as Telegram, WhatsApp and etc.

And another that teachers. He who determines to the students motivation to study. Teacher must have a good effort. He'll be role model for all students from how they walk, how they talk and how they carry the materials in class. Think that you have a great teacher. He is really professional and he is always on time to start a class. He can make the course is easy to learn and understand. He is able to choose the appropriate method, approach, strategy and technic in transferring the knowledge. Again, the competence to analyze to some difficulties that face by some students. Then, teachers play an important role in facilitating the growth of individuals and the formation of a good community, in which the members behave democratically and morally<sup>5</sup>.

Harmer then explained in his book that method used is also important part of learning process in motivation<sup>6</sup>. Method as whole process of planning, selection and grading the material of language, and techniques of teaching methods<sup>7</sup>. Teacher must be professional and able to choose the appropriate method. By this, students will engage in

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<sup>5</sup> Seung Hwan Shim, "A Philosophical Investigation of the Role of Teachers: A Synthesis of Plato, Confucius, Buber, and Freire", *An International Journal of Research and Studies*, vol. 24 No.3 (Apr 2008), 525

<sup>6</sup> Jeremy Harmer, *The Practice of English Language Teaching*, Third Edition. (England: Longman Pearson, 2001), Page 52

<sup>7</sup> Dr. M. Farel and Praveen M. Jain, *English Language Teaching*, First Edition. (Jaipur: Sunrise Publisher and Distributor, 2008), Page 71

the learning process from the beginning till the last. If in speaking class, teacher must use the method or strategy for speaking such English debate and if it is for writing thus the right way is using method for enhancing eager to love writing.

English as second language becomes problem to Indonesia students where intrinsically their first language is different to second/target language. In English, there are four skill should be mastered: the receptive skills are listening and reading, productive skills are speaking and writing. Focusing on speaking skills that sometimes students have difficulty in pronouncing some words that has the same spelling but different sound for example “present”. This word have two meanings. It can be verb and noun. Furthermore, the other productive skill is writing, as stated by Nunan that it is a natural activity that engage the ability expressing ideas, experience, and feeling into written form<sup>8</sup>. By this, some students’ feel confused to some lesson in writing where beside they must have good enough vocabulary also about the structure of language such the present tense, past continuous, gerund and etc. In other words, with the complexity in learning English, student need to get motivated to lesson in order to get good result in the end of learning.

The previous study has been done by researchers Purnama, N. A., Rahayu, N. S., Yugafiati, R. in 2019 entitle students’ motivation in learning English<sup>9</sup>. The result of this study showed that students has motivation in studying English. It is proved from the questionnaire and interview that shared by the researchers. From the ten questionnaire, the percentage of strongly agree and agree are higher than disagree and strongly disagree. Such the first question “I really like learning English”. The average of their answers is 86.4 % agree about this statement. Of course they have reason for that. The other researcher who has done the similar research is Thohir, L. The title is motivation in a foreign language teaching and learning<sup>10</sup>. He noted that it is a critical role for learning that teacher makes attempts to keep students motivated. So in conclusion, for

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<sup>8</sup> David Nunan, *Designing Task for The Communicative Classroom*, First Edition. (New York: Cambridge University Press, 1989) Page 35

<sup>9</sup> Neng Aprilia Purnama, Neng Sri Rahayu and Rasi Yugafiati, “Students’ Motivation in Learning English” *Professional Jurnal of English Education*, Volume 2, No. 4 (July 2019)

<sup>10</sup> Lalu Thohir, “Motivation in a Foreign Language Teaching and Learning”, *Journal for Language and Foreign Language Learning*, VOL.6, NO.1, (2017) 20-28

them, English important for their live and again for the future for example for having a good job.

Based on the description above, the researcher is interested to investigate the students' motivation in studying English in MA Kebunrejo Genteng – Banyuwangi whether the motivation comes from outside or inside. As the researcher stated that if because of the English itself means students have intrinsic motivation in contract if he/she study because of reward or punishment, the students effort is from the outside or it is the extrinsic motivation. The research is going to be done in MA Bustanul Makmur at the eleventh and twelfth grade students.

## **Method**

This study is used qualitative research design. This study is to reveal some detailed information about some issues or topic based on the fact of first-hand experience. Qualitative research is multi-method in focus, involving an interpretive, naturalistic approach to its subject matter. This means that qualitative researchers study things in their natural settings, attempting to make sense of, or interpret, phenomena in terms of the meanings people bring to them<sup>11</sup>. It means that descriptive qualitative is a research method which uses technique of searching, classifying, and analyzing the natural phenomenon.

The research instrument is questionnaire. According to Ary, questioner is an instrument in which respondents provide written responses to questions or mark items that indicate their responses<sup>12</sup>. In this research, the researcher uses questionnaire to collect the data, because by using questionnaire, the answer will be well organized. Cresswell add that there are three types of the questions: a. Close-ended question is the researcher poses a question and provides pre-set response options for the participant b. Open-ended questions are questions for which researchers do not provide the response options; the participants provide their own responses to questions. c. semi-closed-ended questions: This type of question has all the advantages of open- and closed-ended

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<sup>11</sup> Keith Richard, *Qualitative Inquiry in TESOL*, (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2003)

<sup>12</sup> Donald Ary, Lucy Cheser Jacobs and Chris Sorensen, *Introduction to Research in Education*, Eight Edition. (Canada: Wadsworth Cengage Learning, 2010), Page 384

questions<sup>13</sup>. The technique is to ask a closed-ended question and then ask for additional responses in an open-ended question.

The research is conducted in MA Bustanul Makmur Genteng – Banyuwangi. The population of this school is 115 from the tenth to twelfth grade and the researcher choose the eleventh grade students as respondents. There are 20 students in IPA class and 20 IPS class.. Students have provided 16 questionnaire to answer. They are requested to answer the questions which have to choose the five possible answer: they are strongly agree, agree, neutral, disagree, strongly agree. Students are given around 20 minutes to answer these questions.

### **Result and Discussion**

Based on the questionnaire that have shared to students, the result shows that students have answer the questionnaire varies greatly. The top of average percentage of the choice is neutral then followed with agree. The residue are disagree, strongly agree and strongly disagree sequentially. It means some students still hesitant to say agree or disagree about the their motivation in studying English.

When students asked about the predilection of English. Most of students hesitant to say agree or disagree. They prefer to choose neutral. It proves that they still have potential to love English and agree about the statement I really like English.

Then, the researcher is impressed to most students who really agree about the statement that studying English is important for broaden outlook. Based on this statement, of course, someone who has mastered English will have more insight and experience. As we know that English is used by most people worldwide whether it is utilized as first language or second language. It is supported by Crystal that he said English as global language<sup>14</sup>. For this reason the relation between English and insight is we see that the language of gadget using English and again front desk in hotel use English to greet guest from other countries. In other words, by mastering English students will be easier to understand the world and getting job.

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<sup>13</sup> John W. Cresswell, *Research design: Qualitative, Quantitative, and Mixed Methods Approaches*. Fourth Edition. (California: SAGE Publication Ltd, 2010)

<sup>14</sup> David Crystal, *English as Global Language*, Second Edition. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2003) Page 3

From 40 students who have asked by answering questionnaire, the highest percentage is agree to the statement about English is one of requirement for getting job. For example, English is really needed for employee working at a hotel. Especially for front desk or receptionist because as the job description of her/him is service guest check in and check out, giving information related to the facility in hotel, and again alert to guest who booked room from telephone. Kind and well in communication is the key of having job. Thus, why most of students prefer to choose agree to this, it's because in this globalization era, people is easy to go somewhere included to Indonesia with many beautiful destinations and if working at hotel, students must master English.

Studying English because I want continue my study abroad. The most of students choose agree to this statement than become neutral or even disagree about. Crystal stated that this language administratively is utilized by over seventy countries and he added that it has special role for worldwide<sup>15</sup>. What kind of benefit then if students have capability in speaking English for studying abroad. One of the biggest advantages is experience studying in another country with different culture. Students will totally see the environment and habit of host country with yours. Studying there will recognize everything for example, eating some food, hearing traditional music and having local activities. Another benefit is studying the language of host country. Moreover, if students choose UK, USA or Australia as the purpose country. They will get profit with learning some Slang words from the native of English.

Furthermore, watching movie without subtitle is interested to discuss. But, most of students in this case agree if watching movie without subtitle. Of course, it is for who have advanced skill in English and it is not for who still have elementary and intermediate level. English as the second language for Indonesian students is not as easy as the first language where intrinsically there are plenty of words have different way to be pronounced. Moreover, as a native speakers will be more fluent in speaking the language. It is proved from many movie that often as the movie lover (students) will repeat the conversation scene twice or three time to understand it. Thus, this is the

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<sup>15</sup> David Crystal, English worldwide In R. Hogg & D. Denison (Eds), A history of the English language. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006) Page 423

challenge for the students who like watching western movie. Students will get more insight about the language style, some slang phrase and enrich vocabulary.

From the data that students tend to the extrinsic motivation questionnaire than intrinsic. It can be looked from the answer of questions about the reason of studying English. Harmer (2001) stated that the factors affected the motivation in studying the need to pass an exam, the hope of financial reward or the possibility of future travel<sup>16</sup>.

## **Conclusion**

Motivation has important role for students especially in studying English. The motivation are able to be gotten from the inside or outside. If it is from inside, it means that students fell enjoy with the material and feel curious to study the language. But, in contrary, studying the English because some factors from outside such as reward and final exam score. Of course both of them really influenced the students competence in that language. The result show that most of students still hesitant to say agree or disagree to some statement that related to their motivation in English. Some others that have been looked form the average that agree to statement. It means that they have potential of loving English and study hard for the future with motivation.

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<sup>16</sup> Jeremy Harmer, *The Practice of English Language Teaching*, Fourth Edition. (England: Longman Pearson, 2001), Page 98



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